

# Stone Chippings



It was a good day. A VERY good day.

There was worship and fellowship, music and laughter, God’s word read and proclaimed, and abundant, delicious food.

Celebrating the 235<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Old Stone Presbyterian Church was a wonderful moment to reflect on the past,

present, and future. It seems appropriate to consider the faith of those women and men, 235 years ago, who still had so much yet to learn about the land where they were living, but knew that they had to “Give God the Glory” from the very beginning.

At the anniversary celebration I asked you to ponder what God wants and hopes for Old Stone- what you envision God is calling us to do and be in the years ahead. Thank you to all who took the time to answer. You revealed joy and pride in where Old Stone has been and a great deal of confidence that God is walking with Old Stone into the future. More than a few of you, however, expressed your concern over wishing that there were more young children at OSPC as well as some fears (fears that so many churches across the country and world are experiencing) about the ways church is changing. People don’t attend worship like they used to. Giving doesn’t happen like it used to. Who will be here to carry on the faith?

These fears and worries are understandable. After all, we are in a time of significant social change. What I was reminded of as we celebrated the 235<sup>th</sup> anniversary was that we are not alone. This is not the only season of transition that the Holy Spirit has led us through, and so, while worry is understandable, we don’t need to worry. We need to haul stone, share what we have, and give praise to the source of all blessing. The Holy Spirit will not let us go.

Peace,

*Anna Pinckney Straight*



On the first Sunday of each month we invite any child or youth who has a birthday in that month to bring coins to place in the birthday bank during the Time for the Young Church—one coin per year. When the bank is full it is emptied and the proceeds are donated to mission. **Happy birthday!**

October 2	Pam Lewis, Brenda Smith	October 3	Nixon Brown
October 4	Ron Snyder	October 6	Renee Ahern, Hayes Hileman
October 7	Glenn Lehman	October 9	Art Mashburn
October 11	Braham Kesterson, Ellsworth Buck		
October 12	Jason Kesterson	October 14	Betty Dempsey
October 15	Lynn Weber	October 17	Nelda Mashburn
October 18	Fred Taylor	October 19	Elizabeth Isaac
October 20	JoAnn Pearis	October 26	Brooke Blankenship
October 29	Lauren Rodgers	October 30	Vicki Wilson
October 31	DeWitt Shank, John Hofmann		

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S BREAKFAST** – 1<sup>ST</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00 a.m. at Shoney's. Join for breakfast and devotion.



### **Presbyterian Women's Council News:**

The Presbyterian Women's Council will meet on Friday, October 5th at 12:30 pm in the church's conference room. We encourage all women to attend and help support all of our church and community endeavors!

The Afternoon and Evening Circles will be on Wednesday, October 10th. The Afternoon Circle meets at 1:00 p.m. with Tracy Morgan as hostess. The Evening Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Hayes Room with Linda Hayes as hostess.

On Sunday, October 21st immediately following worship, the Presbyterian Women will hold a Bake Sale at the front of the church (weather permitting). This will be a donation only sale with all proceeds going to raise funds for our Spring Community Wide Women's Retreat to be held on March 30, 2019. Many of you know that we have some talented bakers amongst us, so please come bring your sweet tooth and support our Women's Outreach Retreat. In case of unfavorable weather, the sale will be held in the entrance to the Education Building.

**McCormick House Minutes:**

Beginning in October, we will continue to host monthly outings with the young ladies at Davis Stuart's McCormick House. Dawn Huffman and Molly Hileman have planned a fun fall party for Sunday evening October 21st. That evening we are looking for volunteers to join us at the McCormick house for a pumpkin painting party! If you are interested in volunteering, please see Dawn or Molly.

Throughout the month of October, we will be collecting Halloween candy for the McCormick House's Trunk or Treat event. If you would like to donate any candy, please give to Debbie in the church office throughout the month of October.

**Special PYC Guest****October 14<sup>th</sup>**

We are so excited that Joan Browning will meet with PYC on October 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 to share her experience as a Freedom Rider. The timing is especially fortuitous considering that the participants on our High School mission trip recently visited the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. If there are others who are not in PYC who would be interested in hearing Joan speak, then we would love to have you!

**Middle School Mission Project****Davis Stewart Backpacks**

Firstly, THANK YOU to those of you who have donated backpacks, school supplies and hygiene items for the backpack drive. We are still in need of more backpacks to meet our goal of serving the youth of Davis Stewart for one year. It is especially important to remember that the teens who reside at Davis Stewart often come to them with nothing, or with a few items in a plastic bag. When times are most difficult, it can be the simplest items that bring comfort. Having a bag to carry your belongings, necessary school supplies and shampoo can bring surprising normalcy to a situation that is anything but. Please consider donating a backpack. All donations must be received by worship on October 14<sup>th</sup>.



Our annual Halloween Party will be held on October 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:00. PYC will have lunch together immediately after worship and then decorate Fellowship Hall. All children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and under are encouraged to wear their costume. There will be games, prizes and refreshments! Don't forget to invite your friends!

Bluestone offers beautiful scenery and a chance to unwind. This retreat has something for everyone! Contact Amy Kesterson for more information!

### **FALL GETAWAY RETREAT**

---

Come join us for a fun and relaxing weekend retreat sponsored by the Presbytery of West Virginia's Bluestone Committee and Friends of Bluestone, Inc.

**Retreat Dates: October 5 – 7**

Enjoy the beautiful fall foliage in God's creation at Bluestone! There will be good food, friendly fellowship, and a variety recreational opportunities. Always a favorite, dinner on Saturday night will be a Dutch Oven cookout, where we all pitch in and make dinner together.

This year's theme is "Fall In Love With Appalachia" and plans are in the works that include stories and crafts that will help us learn and appreciate more about our culture here in the Mountain State! Candace Maxwell and Rowan Zoeller work together on the WV Council of Churches "Kinship Camp Initiative" and will be sharing with us during the adult educational track.

It's going to be a great retreat, and EVERYONE is encouraged to attend.

#### **Registration Fees**

Adults (ages 12 & older) **\$80.00**  
Youth (ages 4 through 11) **\$45.00**  
Children (ages 3 & under) **FREE**



### 2019 Youth Mission Trip Leech Lake, Minnesota

The rising and graduating 2019 senior class has met and prayerfully decided on the location of next year's mission trip. After serving in several large urban communities, they felt called to serve on a Native American Reservation. We are in the very earliest stages of planning, but so far we know that our group will assist the community with home improvement projects, children's programs, and through projects at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school, a school that intentionally teaches the Ojibwa language and culture. Youth Works has partnered with this community since 2000, and we are looking forward to the ways that God will use us there.

### Mark Your Calendar Now!

Our Senior High Retreat for all high school students is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> at Bluestone.



Old Stone Presbyterian Church will host a Harvest Festival Celebration "We Gather in Unity", on Sunday, November 4, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. outside, in front of the Old Stone Education Building and lawn. The celebration will give honor and thanks to God and the endless bounty, goodness and grace he has bestowed on his peoples and nation. The celebration will be reminiscent of the "First Thanksgiving", where everyone will contribute and share from a common table. We will give thanks to God through song, inspirational words, pageantry and a bounteous meal.

Please bring a covered dish to share. We are asking for RSVP's by October 8, 2018, so that we may know the number of attendees and the types of goods offered. Please call or text the church office with your reply. 304-645-2676 or [oldstone@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:oldstone@suddenlinkmail.com)

Old Stone will provide drinks, meat, and paper supplies. In case of inclement weather, the celebration will move inside of Old Stone Church. Join your church family to celebrate the harvest.

**Dear Old Stone Friends,**

The Hamilton Family sends you their love and gratitude for the friendship, kindness and assistance you all have extended to Jeanne over the last several years. Your expressions of sympathy and sharing of memories after her passing have been lovely and meaningful. The Hamilton hearts were enormously touched by your large presence in the congregation and in the choir for Jeanne's memorial service. The ushers welcomed her family and friends so graciously and assisted her children as they organized. A sad morning became a warm and beautiful day in large part because of you, her Old Stone Friends.

Sincerely,

Trip, Townley, Barbara, Courtney and Meredith

**Kroger Rewards**

For the past four years, PYC has participated in the Kroger Rewards program. It has proven financially beneficial for us to continue this partnership. Please be reminded that in order to support PYC in this way, you must enroll every single year. You can do this by searching "Kroger Community Rewards" and signing in to your account. You can search us by name (Old Stone) and it helps to narrow the search to "faith based". We have been assigned a new account number which is **KV356** should you need it. Should you have difficulty with the enrollment process, please contact Amy Kesterson!

**Flu Shots**

The Greenbrier County Health Department will be coming to the Education Building on Thursday, October 11, from 9-10 a.m. to give flu shots. Everyone is welcome to come. They accept insurance and paperwork is available in the office for the insurance billing. If you'd like to come, please contact the office so we can let the nurses know how many to expect.

**Rummage Sale**

PYC will hold a rummage sale in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. We will begin accepting donations on Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Please take a few moments and clean out your closets or garage! All monies raised will be earmarked for summer youth activities, such as our mission trip to Leech Lake, MN and Triennium.

*I know many of you have been watching the effects of Hurricane Florence and wondering how you can help. Here are words from my colleague, the Rev. Dr. Dan Lewis, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Wilmington.*

Good Friends,

What an incredible blessing to be contacted by you as you're looking for ways to support Wilmington and all of Eastern North Carolina in the wake of Hurricane Florence! I am absolutely awed and humbled by the outpouring of concern and offers to help. I can't find words to say how grateful we are for you, which is good because I wouldn't have time to write those words anyway! Each day is a hectic negotiation between the needs of my own home and family, the local church and the larger Wilmington community, and finally the nationwide network of Presbyterian and ecumenical support. It's all a blur. I will offer just a few observations from the middle of the fray...

1. I thank God every day for the commitment and know-how of the local nonprofit community, which has been supported all along by the faith community. In Wilmington, it is the Harrelson Center (whose Executive Director, Meade Van Pelt, is a member of FPC), a sort of one stop shopping for those in need, as well as Catholic Charities (housed at the Harrelson Center), which focuses, among other things, on short- and long-term disaster recovery. I cannot overstate the value of having people around who know what to do, and are willing to do it. We do our best for the community when we pool our resources and organize, rather than trying to go it alone.

2. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, in my experience thus far, is committed, compassionate, and organized. I am so proud to have a national organization like this on our side. We expect to begin housing PDA work teams soon, and all our scheduling will be handled through the PDA Call Center, which is a huge blessing.

3. New Hanover County in general, and Wilmington in particular, have far more resources than neighboring counties, which were affected more severely by Hurricane Florence, especially with regard to flooding. Many of these places have not yet fully recovered from flooding after Hurricane Matthew in 2016. I want you to know that we are working with Catholic Charities to get relief out to these surrounding areas as soon as we can, but I also recommend the Disaster Relief Fund of the Coastal Carolina Presbytery, which will be able to reach into pockets of rural Eastern North Carolina that might otherwise be forgotten.

I am indescribably grateful for your friendship and partnership in the good news. Spread the word, please, that we're doing well and appreciate the prayers!

Grace and peace to you, Dan Lewis

a. First Presbyterian Church  
(memo: Hurricane relief)  
125 S. 3rd Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

b. The Harrelson Center  
(memo: Hurricane relief)  
20 North 4th Street STE 214  
Wilmington, NC 28401

c. Catholic Charities (memo: Hurricane relief)  
The Harrelson Center  
20 North 4th Street STE 300  
Wilmington, NC 28401

d. Presbytery of Coastal Carolina (memo:  
Disaster Relief Fund)  
807 W. King Street  
Elizabethtown, NC 28337

For more: <http://www.firstonthird.org/disaster-relief/>

**Nov 2018 (Eastern Time - New York)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 3pm - Halloween Party	7pm - Choir Practice	11am - Bulletin Deadline 3pm - STAIR	9am - Gwen's Meals @ Kitchen 2pm - Staff Meeting 3pm - Logos	3pm - STAIR	12:30pm - Presbyterian Women's	
10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 1pm - Harvest Festival	7pm - Choir Practice	11am - Bulletin Deadline 3pm - STAIR 7pm - Dance Group	9am - Men's Breakfast 2pm - Comfort Care 2pm - Staff Meeting 3pm - Logos 6pm - Session Meeting	Rummage Sale Sat Up 3pm - STAIR	Rummage Sale Sat Up 9am - Mom's Cafe	PTC Rummage Sale
10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 5:30pm - PYC	7pm - Choir Practice	11am - Bulletin Deadline 3pm - STAIR	1pm - PW Circle 1:30pm - Staff Meeting 2pm - Staff Meeting 3pm - Logos 7pm - PW Circle	Presbytery of West Virginia 3pm - STAIR		7:30am - Food Locker
10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 5:30pm - PYC	7pm - Choir Practice	10am - Newsletter Deadline 11am - Bulletin Deadline 7pm - Dance Group	2pm - Staff Meeting 3pm - Logos			
10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 5:30pm - PYC	7pm - Choir Practice	11am - Bulletin Deadline 3pm - STAIR	2pm - Staff Meeting 3pm - Logos 6pm - Committee Night	3pm - STAIR	9am - Mom's Cafe	